

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 5, 6, 8, 10-12 and 14-18 have been allowed if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 5 and 6 have therefore been rewritten in independent form. Additionally, Claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form and further includes the subject matter of allowable Claim 11. Claims 5, 6, 8-10 and 12-18 therefore recite subject matter which has been indicated as being allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a case, at least one heat generating electric device located in the case, a dividing board having at least one window extending therethrough and further including a fan unit covering the window, a slot in the wall of the case and at least one dividing board guide in the case, wherein the slot and the guide are positioned, and the dividing board is dimensioned, such that the dividing board introduced into the case via the slot may be guided by the dividing board guide to be inserted in the case such that the dividing board substantially completely separates the interior of the case into a heated room having the electric device and a ventilated room which does not have the electric device or any other electric device. Basis for this is found in Figure 2 at page 3, lines 16-27 and at page 8, lines 3-12.

According to a feature of the invention, the interior of a control box is divided by a dividing board into heated and ventilated rooms, and air is made to flow by a fan unit in one direction between the rooms so that heat from the electric device may be absorbed and removed (page 3, lines 16-27). The fan unit is mounted on a dividing board which can be removed from the case of the control box and is guided therein by guides which position the dividing board to substantially completely separate the interior of the case into the heated room and the ventilated room. Therefore, cooling air reaching the electric device in the

heated room has not already been heated by other electrical devices in the ventilated room, and the electric devices are more effectively cooled.

Claims 1, 2, 9 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. patent 6,288,897 (Fritschle et al) in which fans 12 are mounted in a fan unit 11 which may be introduced into a casing 22 via a slot 24 and guided into the casing via guides 26. As can be seen in Figure 4 of Fritschle et al, the fan unit 11 divides the interior of the casing. However, both sides of the divided interior include electric devices which generate heat, e.g., the hard drives 46 and the circuit boards 48. Therefore, the fan unit 11 does not comprise a dividing board which substantially completely separates the interior of the casing into the heated room having an electric device and a ventilated room which does not have the electric device or any other electric device. Rather, both rooms or spaces have electronic devices which generate heat and so the air cooling the circuit boards 48 has already been heated by passing over the hard drives 46. Amended Claim 1 therefore defines over Fritschle et al.

Dependent Claims 3, 4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Fritschle et al in view of the additionally references to Negishi, Wu and Morris. However, none of these secondary references could provide a teaching for overcoming the shortcomings of Fritschle et al. For example, both portions of the interior of the casing divided by the fans 14 in Wu contain electronic devices: the CPUs 17 and the hard drives 15. The additional space in Morris provided by the support plate 25 is provided for supplemental control equipment (Abstract). The fan unit 8 of Negishi is not a dividing board which divides the interior of the cabinet 2, but forms one of the outer walls of the cabinet.

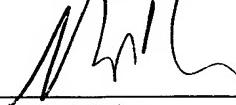
Claim 5 has been amended in light of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, which is believed to be moot.

Figure 3 has been amended to correct the erroneous reference numeral noted in paragraph 1 of the Office Action.

Applicants therefore believe that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicit an early Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the sheet of drawings including Fig. 3 with the attached replacement sheet of drawings in which reference number “14” has been changed to “13.”

Attachment: Replacement Sheet